

Appendix 1: Medical education support funding calculator

In October 2006, an audit of Queensland Health Medical Education Units highlighted that there is no consistent trend between the resourcing levels of MEUs and the total number of prevocational doctors managed. Subsequently a mathematical formula for benchmarking and estimating the appropriate level of staffing in MEUs was developed by Queensland Health, and health services are encouraged to re-audit using this tool every two years. The Queensland Health Medical Education Support Calculator¹ determines the FTE requirements for Directors of Clinical Training (DCT), Medical Education Officers (MEO) and Administrative Support (AS) and recommends minimum levels for small sites. The minimum levels are 0.1 FTE DCT, 0.4 FTE MEO and working towards 1 FTE AS for full units.

The Medical Education Support calculator can be obtained from SA IMET. An example of the calculator and the formula it uses are provided below.

Medical education support funding calculator V1.0 - for DCT, MEO and AO postions

Enter here to calculate both DCT and MEO FTE ?					Enter here to calculate AO FTE ?			
PGY1/ IMG	0	0			0.05	PGY1	0	0.05
PGY2	0	0			0.02	PGY2/IMG	0	0.02
Total DCT FTE		0.10	Total MEO FTE		0.07	Total AO FTE		0.00

NB: For DCT & MEO; PGY2,3&4 IMGs are included in PGY1 loading

NB: For AO; PGY2,3&4 IMGs are included in PGY2 loading

NOTE: The model assumes that each MEU will work towards a minimum of 1 FTE administrative support. If the DCT is less than 0.1 it should be assumed to be 0.1 FTE and if the MEO is less than 0.4, there needs to be at least 0.4 before an MEO post is established

Further explanatory notes are provided in supplementary material. The following extracts copied from these notes provide insight into the formulas imbedded in the calculator:

The DCT resourcing formula is as follows:

<p>0.008 FTE MO2(01) per PGY1 AMG or IMG from a declared competent authority,</p> <p>Plus</p> <p>0.003 FTE MO2(01) per PGY2 (AMG or IMG from a declared competent authority,</p> <p>Plus</p> <p>0.008 FTE MO2(01) per PGY2, 3 or 4 IMG not from a declared competent authority up until 31 December 2010.</p> <p>NB: 0.1 minimum FTE</p>
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The MEO resourcing formula, which can be applied for between 0 to 250 doctors is as follows:

PO3(04) MEO FTE for all PGY1 from a declared competent authority, and IMG in PGY2, 3 or 4 who are not from an AMC declared competent authority =

$$-0.00008 X^2 + 0.0202X + 0.0478$$

Plus

PO3(04) MEO FTE for all PGY2 from a declared competent authority =

$$-0.00003X^2 + 0.0073X + 0.0174$$

NB: 0.4 minimum FTE
